

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 43, 48, 49 and 51. A complete listing of the claims, including their current status, is provided below.

Claims 1-2 (cancelled)
Claims 3-11 (withdrawn)
Claims 12-13 (cancelled)
Claim 14-20 (withdrawn)
Claims 21 (cancelled)
Claims 22-42 (withdrawn)

43. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting a cancerous cell, said method comprising: detecting a level of a nucleic acid gene product in a test sample obtained from a cell of a subject, wherein said gene product is identified by the sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, or complement thereof; and

comparing the level of said nucleic acid gene product to a control level of said nucleic acid gene product.

wherein results of said comparing step indicate that the test sample contains a cancerous cell.

44. (Previously Added) The method of claim 43, wherein said control level is a level of said nucleic acid gene product in a normal cell, and the presence of a cancerous cell is indicated by detection of a level of said nucleic acid gene product in said test sample that is higher than said control level.

45. (Previously Added) The method of claim 43, wherein said control level is a level of said nucleic acid gene product in a cancerous cell, and the presence of a cancerous cell is indicated by detection of a level of said nucleic acid gene product in said test sample that is similar to said control level.

46. (Previously Added) The method of claim 43, wherein said cancerous cell is a cancerous colon cell.

47. (Previously Added) The method of claim 43, wherein said nucleic acid gene product is an mRNA or cDNA thereof.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein said detecting step comprises a step of performing uses a polymerase chain reaction.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein said detecting step comprises a step of performing nucleic acid uses hybridization.

50. (Previously Added) The method of claim 43, wherein said sample is a sample of colon tissue.

51. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying a cancerous colon cell, the method comprising the steps-of:

detecting the level of a nucleic acid product of a gene, wherein said detecting is by hybridization of a polynucleotide probe comprising at least 50 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:3 or complement thereof, where the test sample is derived from a test cell suspected of being a cancerous colon cell; and

comparing the level of said nucleic acid product with a level of said nucleic acid product in a control cell;

wherein results of said comparing step indicate that the test cell is a cancerous colon cell.

52. (Previously Added) The method of claim 51, wherein said nucleic acid product is a mRNA or cDNA thereof.

53. **(Previously Added)** The method of claim 51, wherein said control cell is derived from a normal colon cell, and said comparing step indicates that the level of said nucleic acid product in said test cell is greater than the level of said nucleic acid product in said control cell.

54. **(Previously Added)** The method of claim 51, wherein said control cell is derived from a cancerous colon cell, and said comparing step indicates that the level of said nucleic acid product in said test cell is similar to the level of said nucleic acid product in said control cell.

55. **(Previously Added)** The method of claim 51, wherein said probe comprises at least 100 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:3 or complement thereof.

56. **(Previously Added)** A method for assessing the tumor burden of a subject, the method comprising:

detecting a level of a nucleic acid product of a gene identified by SEQ ID NO:3 or complement thereof in a test sample from a subject suspected of or having a tumor; and
comparing said level to a control level of said nucleic acid product;
wherein results of said comparing step are indicative of the tumor burden in the subject.

57. **(Previously Added)** The method of claim 56, wherein said nucleic acid product is a mRNA or cDNA thereof.

58. **(Previously Added)** The method of claim 56, wherein said test sample is a sample of colon.

59. **(Previously Added)** The method of claim 56, wherein said comparing step indicates that there is an abnormally high level of said nucleic acid gene product.